

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NIS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Old Main - Franklin College

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

600 East Monroe Street

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Franklin

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Indiana

CODE

18

COUNTY

Johnson

CODE

081

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

___ MUSEUM

___ COMMERCIAL

___ PARK

☒ EDUCATIONAL

___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ RELIGIOUS

___ GOVERNMENT

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ MILITARY

___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Franklin College of Indiana

STREET & NUMBER

600 East Monroe Street

CITY, TOWN

Franklin

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Indiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Johnson County Courthouse Deed Book 'E' Page 142

STREET & NUMBER

Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Franklin

STATE

Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

___EXCELLENT
☒GOOD
___FAIR

___DETERIORATED
___RUINS
___UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

___UNALTERED
___ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ORIGINAL SITE
___MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Old Main is the oldest building on the campus of Franklin College and is now used as the Administration Building. With the exception of a short time during the Civil War it has been in continuous use since it was built.

The building was built in three sections, the north in 1847, the south in 1855 and the middle in 1888 connecting the other two buildings. The two wings are three stories each and were rather simply constructed but the third building is more ornate and has 4 stories with a bell tower and observatory above the fourth floor. The architecture could be considered to be High Victorian with some Gothic influence. The two three story wings have medium gable roofs with brackets and short returns. Wall dormers with mansard roofs were added to these wings when the center section was built to unify the design of the three buildings. The four story center section which constitutes the main entrance to the building has a bell tower and pyramid roof. The fourth floor interior has exposed beams and an interesting rolling system. The three buildings now have the appearance of one original design. Bracing system.

There is a very unique central stairway leading to the third floor. It begins with a single 1/2 story section splitting into two wings that lead to a corresponding balcony on the second floor. The effect, looking up or down gives many more than three levels is accented by. There have been no alterations to the exterior of the three buildings except for the removal of the 16 or more chimneys which appear in old photographs of the first two buildings. The bricks which were fired on the site have mellowed and faded but are in good condition. The slate roofs have been repaired and most of the original slate is still on the roof. The tower window frames and the tower ornamentalations are shaped wood covered with metal and stamped metal.

The interior has been altered only to the extent of adding walls to provide smaller classrooms and more offices. The corridors are in the original position. Three floors are still in use for administration and faculty offices and classrooms. The fourth floor has not been used for almost 50 years but it is still sound and could be put into use again if restored and proper fire safety provided. Original blackboards and fixtures are still in place.

The building has been judged sound by competent engineers. Steel supports were placed under the main section (center) around 1960.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1847, 1855, 1888

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

At least 20 college presidents have been educated in this building. Many prominent physicians received undergraduate instruction in this building including Dr. Bronson Ray of Cornell University School of Medicine, Dr. William G. Hibbs, former director of Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago, Dr. Paul Merrell, brain surgeon of Indianapolis, Dr. Parley Monroe of the American Hospital Mexico City, Dr. Wil Nelp, head of Atomic Medicine department, University of Washington-School of Medicine, and Dr. Thomas G. Vandivier of the Diagnostic Clinic, Houston, Texas. Outstanding graduates who trod these halls and who have excelled in their fields include, Roger D. Branigin, former Governor of Indiana and prominent attorney and historian, Dr. William Bridges, Curator of Publications, New York Zoological Association, Wayne Coy, former Head of Federal Communications Committee, Hazlett Cuppy, publisher, George Banta, publisher, Elmer Davis, Head of Office of War Information during World War II, William Everson, Major General and Chief of Chaplains during World War I, Truman D. Hoover, Vice-President-Industrial Relations, Eli Lilly and Company, Major General Alva Kincaid, Commanding General 20th Air Force, World War II, Dr. Clarence Lowe, Librarian and Classicist, American School of Classical Studies, Athens, Greece, Dr. Paul Monroe, Educator and Director of Institute of Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, Max L. Friedersdorf, Special Assistant to the President of the United States. Also, James Cotton Noe, Poet Laureate, State of Kentucky, Dr. Maris Proffitt, U.S. Department of Education, Nina Mason Pulliam, Publisher and Author, Judge Charles Remy, Indiana Appellate Court, Cornelius Ryan, Sports Editor, Harold W. Starr, former Secretary, American Red Cross, Harvey Jacobs, Editor Indianapolis News, Marjorie Main, actress, George Walden and Jasper Soctt, chemists and developers of commercial process for production of Insulin, Liver Extract, Pituitary Extract and vitamin products, Dr. Carl Winters, Lecturer, Robert Wise, motion picture director and many others.

The building housed the activities which covered the transition of the college from the Indiana Baptist Manual Labor Institute to an accredited four year liberal arts college in date. It was the first building of its size in Johnson County. The building houses the 5th college founded in the State of Indiana and is still in daily use. Judge Jesse L. Holman of the Indiana Supreme Court and U.S. District Court was a member of the board of trustees that planned the original north wing of the building.

On July 13, 1885 the first copy of the Franklin Evening Star was printed in the north wing of this building, Chandler Hall, and a successor newspaper is still being published. The Indiana High School Press Association was founded in this building on October 28, 1922 and the annual conference is still held on the college campus.

Old Main is a good example of 19th century college architecture incorporating several types of architecture blended into one building. It is also a good example of continuing without altering the exterior of a building.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See attached list)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

A 1 6 5 8 1 9 5 0 4 3 6 9 2 0 0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Raymond C. Fetterley, Special Assistant to the President

ORGANIZATION

Franklin College of Indiana

DATE

7/16/75

STREET & NUMBER

600 East Monroe

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Franklin

STATE

Indiana

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Old Main - Franklin College

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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College Records Minutes of the Board of Trustees